

Break up media conglomerates to get truthful news to the public, cover both sides of issues

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In its goals to promote competition, diversity and localism in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should not only retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question, but would better serve the public by breaking up the current media giants.

These huge companies are overly influenced by the broadcast industry, which currently distorts or fails to truthfully report much of the pertinent news. We need informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints instead of the present limited spectrum of views.

The news of your anticipated June 2nd vote on "deregulation" has lacked sufficient notification, publication, and coverage by major media outlets, because it does not serve their purposes. I request that additional public hearings be publicized and held in areas besides Richmond, and that the vote be postponed.

We are already suffering without a completely free press. Without a free press, there is no democracy.

Sincerely,

Mary Anna Masnik